Earl,

    I really enjoyed your column in this issue of "Sparks". I have enclosed a few things that I thought of immediately after reading your article. You are right that we should use the talents of our club members to make us a much better club. These individuals have so much to offer those of us who are really just getting started in our hobby. Surely they would share their experiences and techniques with we who are ready to learn and keep their hobby alive.

    I hope my list is of some help in getting started. I will try and think of some other items for club programs. I do know that there are several of us who do not have the knowledge regarding some of the items I listed. Some of these individuals are afraid to ask for fear of looking stupid, however most of them (including myself) really don't know who to ask.

    I know that I was having trouble getting my HF rig up and running. I couldn't get the antenna to load and Bob Henn came to my rescue after I had gotten some bad advice from the Ham Station.

    Maybe we need to set-up a good "Elmer" program for all of us new "hams". You know, like we did in education, when we assigned a veteran teacher to a new teacher for the first couple of years to help them get their feet wet and learn the ropes.

    Hope I have helped you with your project. See you at the next meeting.

                                        73's

                                        Bob

                                        Bob

To: Earl Pfettscher (WN9HRB)

From: Bob McIntosh (KB9PZZ)

Re: TARS Meetings

Earl, I would like to see some of the following topics discussed at our meetings:

1. Antennas - the homebrew variety by our members
   a. HF, VHF and UHF types (mono and multi banders)
   b. distribute diagrams of the antennas with measurements
   c. ideas for best location and mounting techniques
   d. type of materials used to construct antenna
   e. type of feed lines

2. Communication techniques:
   a. best times, best bands for contacting all the states
   b. best times, best bands for contacting Europe
   c. best times, best bands for contacting Asia
   d. best times, best bands for contacting Africa
   e. best times, best bands for contacting Australia
   f. on SSB and CW for the above
   g. frequencies that are used by operators in the above areas

3. How to properly use the phone patch and other features of our repeaters.

4. Useful accessories for the "ham shack".

5. A demonstration of how to operate/set-up a packet radio station.

6. A discussion of traffic nets in Indiana - phone/cw and how to become involved.

7. How to operate/set-up and equipment needed to use amateur satellites.

8. How to operate/set-up and equipment needed for slow-scan TV.

9. A program on the history of our club and how we have and hope to help in the community.

I would like to see a class started on the material needed to pass the exams for General, Advance and Extra.

I would like to see a class started on learning CW and improving your speed to 20 WPM. In addition learn how to send CW with a key and a paddle and how to use an electronic keyer.

November 13, 1997 Meeting
Membership Recommendations For Future Programs

1. APRS- Automatic ~~Rocket Recording Station~~
    Position Reporting System
2. Homebrew Night
3. Build a directional antenna for a fox hunt
4. Small group demonstrations
5. Building small projects
6. Tour Channel 44
7. Jeff Lyons- Channel 14
8. Give program speakers a small gift to thank them
9. Provide membership cards
10. Provide doughnuts at meetings
11. Certificate of Deposit in the bank to save for repeaters
12. Booth at other hamfests to advertise TARS
13. Have joint meetings with other ham clubs
14. Record meetings and transmit to absentees
15. White Elephant 'swap night'
16. Club transmit code for practice
17. Begin a TARS Jr. Club for kids- adults serve as 'Elmers'
18. Amateur radio quiz show
19. Invite school science teachers to a demonstration meeting
20. Work with Scouts and their 'Jamboree'
21. Davy Crockett 'Races'
22. Increase the number of volunteers
23. Club roster & names of committee members to membership
24. Publish By- Laws in SPARKS
25. Help to update Website
26. Computers in the hamshack